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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/086,831	03/04/2002	Toshio Anzai	Q68496	2878

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EXAMINER

PATEL, NITIN C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2116

DATE MAILED: 03/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,831

Applicant(s)

ANZAI, TOSHIO

Examiner

Nitin C. Patel

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/4/02; and 5/6/02.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 16 are presented for examination.

Claim Objections

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:
3. In claim 1, "said monitoring control apparatus" in line 11 should be corrected to justify antecedent basis with "monitoring system" in line 6. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. The use of slashes symbol between descriptive elements in the claims 11 – 14 renders the scope and meaning of the claims unclear, as the slashes could be construed to mean "and", "or" or both "and" and "or".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1 – 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Maeda et al. [hereinafter as Maeda], US Patent 6,571,153 B1.

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6. As to claim 1, Maeda a power system management method comprising:

a. a step of changing function [function of changing the relay setting values] of an equipment control apparatus [2A1] from outside [remotely] of said equipment control apparatus by means [4, supervision server] of a communication method [communication network] of higher security [inherent to supervision server] than that of a monitoring system operating via a Web communication net [communication network]:

b. said equipment control apparatus [2A1] being provided on the side of facility equipments constituting a power system and controlling said facility equipments; and

c. a monitoring control apparatus [3, display/operation apparatus] being provided outside of said equipment control apparatus and obtaining internal information about said equipment control apparatus via the Web communication net to monitor a state pf said power system from said internal information [col. 3, lines 29 – 67, col. 4 – 8, col. 9, lines 1 – 25, col. 11, lines 41 – 67, col. 12, lines 1 – 55].

7. As to claim 7, Maeda discloses a power system management system [fig.2] comprising:

a. an equipment control apparatus [2A1] that is provided on the side of facility equipments constituting a power system [P, Electric power system] and controls said facility equipments; and

b. a monitoring control apparatus [3, display/operation apparatus] that is provided outside of said equipment control apparatus [2A1] and obtains internal information about said equipment control apparatus operating via a Web communication

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net [communication network] to monitor a state of said power system from said internal information;

wherein a communication system of higher security [inherent with supervision server] than that of the monitoring system operating via said Web communication net [communication network] is further provided so that said equipment control apparatus [2A1] is changed in function [changing relay setting values] from outside of said equipment control apparatus [remotely] by means of an electronic terminal [4, supervision server] of at least one of a product supply-side base that supplies at least one of said facility equipments and said equipment control apparatus, and a power supply side base [col. 11, lines 41 – 67, col. 12, lines 1 – 55].

8. As to claims 2, and 8, Maeda discloses that a communication of higher security [it is inherent to supervision server and router] than that of the monitoring system [3] operating by using a communication line different from said Web communication net [supervision server apparatus and display/operation apparatus have different communication network lines] [fig. 2, 5].

9. As to claims 3, and 9, Maeda discloses remotely changing of a function [function of remotely changing the relay setting values] of equipment control apparatus [2A1] after conducting confirmatory [displaying an abnormality] communication via said communication line [communication network] [col. 12, lines 38 – 51].

10. As to claims 4, and 10, Maeda discloses a function of [changing the relay setting values] the equipment control apparatus exerting [performing] at least on operation [turning on/off switch] of the power system [col. 13, lines 10 – 33].

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11. As to claim 5, Maeda discloses the power system management method including the function of said equipment control apparatus [2A1] is changed from at least one of a product supply-side base that supplies at least one of said facility equipments and said equipment control apparatus, and a power supply-side base [Ts1, Ts2... sub-stations] [col. 11, lines 41 – 67, col. 12, lines 38 – 51, col. 13, lines 10 – 33, fig. 1,2, 5].

12. As to claim 6, Maeda discloses an equipment control apparatus [2A1], comprising an internal memory [46A, RAM] to which access is performed via said communication line [communication network lines] for changing the function of said equipment control apparatus [function of changing relay setting values] and a common memory to which access is performed via said Web communication net [communication network], is used as said equipment control apparatus [col. 31, lines 9 – 67, col. 32, lines 1 – 67, col. 33 lines 1 – 33, fig. 5, 16,22, and 25].

13. As to claims 11 – 14, Maeda discloses a function of changing the relay setting values and setting the switch OFF and ON, which inherently teaches a switch artificially ON/OFF controlled [col. 12, lines 37 – 55, col. 13, lines 10 – 33, fig. 1-7].

14. As to claim 15, Maeda discloses the power system with administration system [4,supervision apparatus] said equipment control apparatus [2A1] includes a CPU [46a, CPU] managing the function [digital operation processing], an internal memory [46C, ROM] and common memory [46C, ROM], said internal memory [RAM] being capable of being accessed via said communication system, and capable of being accessed via said Web communication net [communication network][[col. 16, lines 18 – 31, col. 31, lines 9 – 67, col. 32, lines 1 – 67, col. 33 lines 1 – 33, fig. 5, 16,22, and 25].

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15. As to claim 16, Maeda discloses that the common memory [46C, ROM] is only for reading [it is inherent property of ROM by it's name as Read Only Memory] with respect to the access said Web communication net.

16. **Examiner's Note:** Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested to the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the examiner.

17. **Prior Art not relied upon:** Please refer to the references listed in attached PTO-892, which is not relied upon for rejection since these references are relevant to the claimed invention.

Conclusion


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nitin C. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-3675. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:45 am to 5:15 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne H. Browne can be reached on 571-272-3670. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nitin C. Patel
March 10, 2005



LYNNE H. BROWNE
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